

Fergus County 2003 Count of Persons by Age, Race, and Gender

		American Indian & Alaska Native		Asian Alone & Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Alone		Two or More Races		Hispanic or Latino of any Race				
School Age	White Alone	Black Alone	Alone									
5 to 9	Total Female	Total Female	1	1	11	5	5	3	15	7	2	2
10 to 14	581	305	1	1	17	7	5	3	16	7	7	4
15 to 19	755	360	1	1	14	5	3	3	16	9	8	5
20 to 24	864	446	1	1	8	5	4	2	6	4	5	3
Total	2,843	1,401	3	3	50	22	17	11	53	27	22	14

		American Indian & Alaska Native		Asian Alone & Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Alone		Two or More Races		Hispanic or Latino of any Race				
Working Age	White Alone	Black Alone	Alone									
15+	9,481	4,874	4	2	126	60	28	17	74	40	58	34
15-64	7,166	3,532	4	2	93	43	28	17	66	36	54	32
20+	8,617	4,428	3	1	112	55	25	14	58	31	50	29
20-64	6,302	3,086	3	1	79	38	25	14	50	27	46	27

		American Indian & Alaska Native		Asian Alone & Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Alone		Two or More Races		Hispanic or Latino of any Race				
Other Age Group	White Alone	Black Alone	Alone									
0 to 4	539	237	1	1	17	11	2	0	16	8	8	7
5 to 19	2,200	1,111	3	3	42	17	13	9	47	23	17	11
20 to 44	3,018	1,470	3	1	49	24	19	10	31	17	30	19
45 to 64	3,284	1,616	0	0	30	14	6	4	19	10	16	8
Total	11,356	5,776	7	5	171	83	40	23	121	62	75	47

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2003 Population Estimates.

Compiled by: Research & Analysis Bureau.

Top 10 Private Employers in Fergus County Listed in Alphabetical Order with Employment Size Class

Business Name	Size Class	Business Name	Size Class
4 Aces Casino & Restaurant	4	Hi-Heat Industries	5
Albertson's	5	M K Weeden Construction	4
Allied Steel	5	Sports Inc.	4
Central Montana Medical Center	7	Valle Vista Manor	5
Century Construction	4	Yogo Inn	5

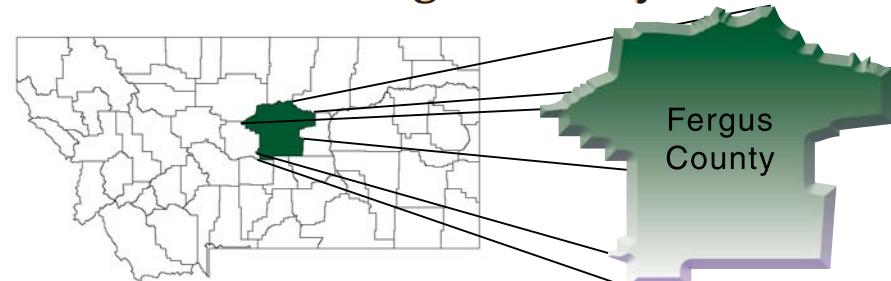
Employment Size Class Coding 7=250-499 employees; 5=50-99 employees; 4=20-49 employees

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Research and Analysis Bureau.

Fourth Quarter 2004 Unemployment Insurance Information. This list includes ONLY private industry employers subject to Unemployment Insurance. Railroads and city, county, state and federal government agencies (including public school districts and universities) are excluded.



For Fergus County



Cities and Towns in Fergus County

Buffalo ■ Christina ■ Coffee Creek ■ Danvers ■ Denton
 Fergus ■ Forestgrove ■ Garneill ■ Grass Range
 Hilger ■ Lewistown ■ Maiden ■ Moore
 Ross Fork ■ Roy ■ Suffolk ■ Winifred



RESEARCH & ANALYSIS BUREAU
WORKFORCE SERVICES DIVISION
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & INDUSTRY

For the most current county-by-county information, visit our website at
www.ourfactsyourfuture.org

June 2005



Located in central Montana, Fergus County is Montana's 15th most populous with 11,539 residents, according to the 2004 Census Bureau estimates. Lewistown, the county seat, is the state's 14th largest city with a population of 5,923, according to the 2003 Census Bureau estimates.

Agriculture is important to the area's economy. Fergus County is eighth in Montana for the largest number of farms and ranches: 830 (see inside table). The county is third in the state for number of beef cattle farms and ranches. The cattle industry is the number one agricultural industry in Montana in terms of sales and revenues, according to the 2002 Census of Agriculture. In addition, Fergus County is ranked ninth out of 3,059 counties in the U.S. for acres of land used for hay, haylage, grass silage, and greenchop, and is number one in Montana for number of acres used for these commodities.

Hay production has become an important commodity in Montana, especially in the last few years, because many counties are struggling with severe to extreme drought. As a result, the U.S. Department of Agriculture website explains that under certain emergency conditions, such as drought, emergency haying and grazing of acreage enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) may be authorized which has recently been allowed in Montana. The department's website shows current drought conditions in Montana and explains the CRP emergency haying program at: <http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html>, for those interested in monitoring conditions in the state. As a result of Montana's drought conditions, a hay hotline was also established to help persons buy and sell hay. Contact the Montana Department of Agriculture at 406-444-2404 for more information on the hay hotline.

The county is also renowned for its water. Blue Water Works produces 99 million gallons of water a day. The 2004 Employment by Industry table on the inside, shows nearly one-fourth of the covered employment is in the government sector. Health care is also noticeable in the private sector with about 20 percent of the total private workforce. Construction is also a significant sector with nearly 11 percent of the total private employment and manufacturing with nearly 10 percent of the total private employment, which compares to about six percent statewide.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, median income for Fergus County households in 2002 was \$31,097, compared to Montana's median income of \$34,105 for the same year. Median income addresses the per household income in the county (no matter how many people live in the home); per capita income (inside table) is total income in the county divided by the number of people in the county.

According to the *Montana Almanac*, by authors Andrea Merrill and Judy Jacobson, the county was established in 1885 and named for James Fergus, a pioneer, miner, cattlemen, and territorial legislator. There's been debate on where Lewistown takes its name, but it's generally believed it's named after Camp Lewis, established in 1874 by Major William Lewis of the 7th U.S. Cavalry. It began as a trading post on the Carroll Trail in the 1880s and incorporated in 1899.

Fergus County Population

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Area	7/1/2004 Estimate	7/1/2003 Estimate	7/1/2002 Estimate	4/1/2000 Census	4/1/1990 Census	Percent Change 2003-2004	Percent Change 2002-2003	Percent Change 2000-2004	Percent Change 2000-2003	Percent Change 1990-2000
Montana	926,865	917,621	910,372	902,195	799,065	1.0%	0.8%	2.7%	1.7%	12.9%
Fergus County	11,539	11,645	11,683	11,893	12,083	-0.9%	-0.3%	-3.0%	-2.1%	-1.6%
Denton	NA	293	294	301	382	NA	-0.3%	NA	-2.3%	-21.2%
Grass Range	NA	148	148	149	150	NA	0.0%	NA	-0.7%	-0.7%
Lewistown	NA	5,923	5,891	5,813	6,051	NA	0.5%	NA	1.3%	-3.9%
Moore	NA	186	184	186	208	NA	1.1%	NA	-1.1%	-10.6%
Winifred	NA	151	152	156	140	NA	-0.7%	NA	-2.6%	11.4%

2000 Fergus County Commuters by Location

County of Residence	# Who Work in Fergus County	County of Work	# Who Live in Fergus County
Out of State	2	Out of State	9
Cascade County	8	Cascade County	24
Chouteau County	2	Fergus County	5,266
Custer County	8	Judith Basin County	24
Fergus County	5,266	Lewis & Clark County	17
Judith Basin County	137	Madison County	6
Lewis & Clark County	6	Missoula County	7
Musselshell County	2	Musselshell County	7
Park County	5	Petroleum County	15
Petroleum County	5	Phillips County	9
Prairie County	2	Pondera County	7
Teton County	3	Sweet Grass County	30
Toole County	4	Wheatland County	20
Wheatland County	15	Yellowstone County	20
Yellowstone County	33	Other Montana Counties	11

Source: 2000 U.S. Census Bureau Data.

Summary of Major Occupational Categories By Gender 2000 Census-Equal Employment Opportunity Data

Occupation	Total	Male	Female
<i>Total</i>	5,589	2,984	2,605
<i>Management, professional, and related occupations:</i>	2,070	1,176	894
<i>Management, business, and financial operations occupations:</i>	1,158	861	297
Management, except farmers and farm managers	439	305	134
Farmers and farm managers	627	515	112
Business and financial operations occupations:	92	41	51
<i>Professional and related occupations:</i>	912	315	597
Education, training, and library occupations	348	48	300
Healthcare practitioners and technical occupations:	204	54	150
<i>Service occupations:</i>	1,012	234	778
Protective service occupations:	51	46	5
Food preparation and serving related occupations	409	84	325
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	151	65	86
Personal care and service occupations	226	26	200
<i>Sales and office occupations:</i>	1,132	364	768
Sales and related occupations	499	277	222
Office and administrative support occupations	633	87	546
<i>Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations</i>	198	160	38
<i>Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations:</i>	618	608	10
Construction and extraction occupations:	376	366	10
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	242	242	0
<i>Production, transportation, and material moving occupations:</i>	559	442	117
Production occupations	230	160	70
Motor vehicle operators	199	179	20
Material moving workers	111	90	21

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Equal Employment Opportunity File, www.census.gov/eeo/2001.



Montana Department of Labor & Industry's Research & Analysis Bureau



For information on employment by industry, new businesses, labor market information, job projections, and hourly pay by occupation, contact our office at:

P.O. Box 1728 Helena, MT 59624
Phone: (406) 444-2430/Fax: (406) 444-2638 Toll Free: (800) 541-3904

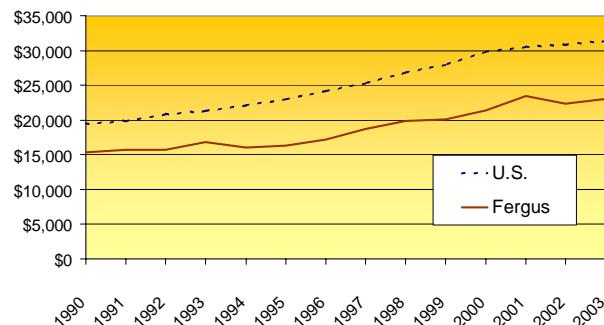
Or check out our website at:

www.ourfactstoyourfuture.org

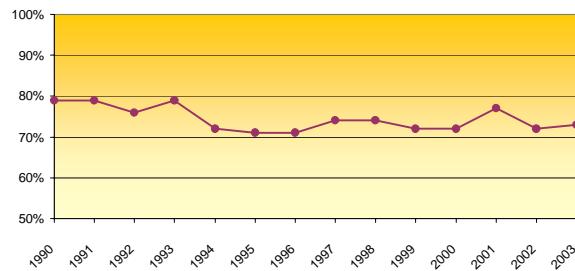
Be sure to check our location quotients for Fergus County on the website. Location quotients are a measure of the concentration of an industry's employment in Fergus County relative to the nation as a whole. A location quotient greater than 1 generally indicates that the industry is more concentrated in Fergus County than in the nation as a whole, while a location quotient less than 1 indicates it is less concentrated in Fergus County than in the nation as a whole.

Fergus County Per Capita Personal Income

Per Capita Personal Income



Percent of National Average



Year	U.S.	% of National Average		Year	U.S.	% of National Average	
		Fergus County	National Average			Fergus County	National Average
2003	\$31,472	\$23,052	73%	1996	\$24,175	\$17,206	71%
2002	\$30,804	\$22,311	72%	1995	\$23,076	\$16,329	71%
2001	\$30,575	\$23,419	77%	1994	\$22,172	\$16,039	72%
2000	\$29,847	\$21,348	72%	1993	\$21,346	\$16,789	79%
1999	\$27,939	\$20,106	72%	1992	\$20,854	\$15,768	76%
1998	\$26,883	\$19,876	74%	1991	\$19,892	\$15,724	79%
1997	\$25,334	\$18,719	74%	1990	\$19,477	\$15,346	79%

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis,
Regional Economic Information System. Released September 2004.

Fergus County Farms and Ranches

Total Farms and Ranches	830
Oilseed & Grain Farming	136
Vegetable & Melon Farming	0
Fruit & Tree Nut Farming	0
Greenhouse, Nursery & Floriculture Production	5
Sugar Beets, Hay & All Other Crops	139
Beef Cattle Ranching & Farming	420
Cattle Feedlots	9
Dairy Cattle & Milk Production	6
Hog & Pig Farming	4
Poultry & Egg Production	2
Sheep & Goat Farming	13
Animal Aquaculture & Other Animal Production	96

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2002 Census of Agriculture.

Resources

Census and Economic Information for Montana:

Census and Economic Information Center, Montana Department of Commerce, P. O. Box 200505, Helena, MT 59620-0505, 406-841-2740 or check out the Internet website at <http://ceic.commerce.mt.gov/>

Chamber of Commerce:

Lewistown Area Chamber of Commerce, 408 N.E. Main, Lewistown, MT 59457, 406-538-5436, <http://www.lewistownchamber.com>

Department of Labor and Industry:

Lewistown Job Service Workforce Center

300 1st Ave. N., Lewistown, MT 59457, 406-538-8701, <http://jsd.dli.state.mt.us/local/lewistown/>

Economic Development:

Snowy Mountain Development Corporation, 613 N.E. Main, Lewistown, MT 59457, 406-538-2591

Housing Costs:

Check the Yellow Pages in the local phone directory for the Real Estate listings.

Internet:

Check the Montana Workforce Services home page for job listings at <http://jsd.dli.mt.gov/>. For information on the Internet about the cities and towns of Buffalo, Coffee Creek, Denton, Forestgrov, Garneill, Grass Range, Hilger, Lewistown, Moore, Roy, and Winifred, go to <http://www.visitmt.com> and click on "cities and towns."

Montana Motor Vehicle Division:

Lewistown—Highway Department, West of Lewistown, 406-538-8725

Fergus County Annual Average Labor Force

Year	Civilian Labor Force			Unemployment Rate
		Employed	Unemployed	
2004	5,987	5,678	309	5.2%
2003	5,923	5,641	282	4.8%
2002	6,001	5,720	281	4.7%
2001	6,148	5,800	348	5.7%
2000	6,372	6,009	363	5.7%

Source: These estimates are provisional estimates produced by the U.S. Department of Labor's, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and will be revised further in 2005.

Newspaper:

Lewistown News-Argus, P. O. Box 900, Lewistown, MT 59457, 406-538-3401,
<http://www.lewistownnews.com>

Public Libraries:

Denton Public Library, 515 Broadway, Denton, MT 59430-0986, 406-567-2571
Lewistown Public Library, 701 W. Main St., Lewistown, MT 59457, 406-538-5212
Moore Public Library, 403 Fergus Ave., Moore, MT 59464-1250, 406-374-2364

Fergus County Public Schools, Kindergarten through 12th Grade:

Ayers Elementary, Box 100 Highway 87 W #106007, Grass Range, MT 59032, 406-428-2368
Deerfield Elementary, Route 3 Box 3139, Lewistown, MT 59457-9513, 406-538-5926
Denton Public Schools, P. O. Box 1048, Denton, MT 59430, 406-567-2370
Grass Range Public Schools, P. O. Box 58, Grass Range, MT 59032, 406-428-2122
King Colony Elementary, 2370 King Colony Road, Lewistown, MT 59457, 406-538-7613
Lewistown Public Schools, 215 7th Ave. S., Lewistown, MT 59457, 406-538-8777
Moore Public Schools, 509 Highland, Moore, MT 59464, 406-374-2231
Roy K-12 Schools, P. O. Box 9, Roy, MT 59471, 406-464-2511
Spring Creek Colony Elementary, P. O. Box 1185, Lewistown, MT 59457, 406-538-7980
Winifred K-12 Schools, P. O. Box 109, Winifred, MT 59489, 406-462-5349

Fergus County Employment by Industry*

Annual Averages 2004

Industry	# of Establishments	Average Annual Employment	Annual Wages Paid	Industry	# of Establishments	Average Annual Employment	Annual Wages Paid
TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	484	4,146	\$98,365,469	TRANSPORTATION & WAREHOUSING	14	29	\$975,472
TOTAL PRIVATE	439	3,138	\$69,902,838	Air Transportation	2	DISCLOSURE ISSUE	
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, FISHING & HUNTING	13	18	\$397,791	Truck Transportation	8	8	\$135,454
Crop Production			DISCLOSURE ISSUE	Transit & Ground Passenger Transport	1	DISCLOSURE ISSUE	
Animal Production	3	6	\$221,542	Support Activities for Transportation	1	DISCLOSURE ISSUE	
Forestry & Logging	6	6	\$125,742	Couriers & Messengers	2	DISCLOSURE ISSUE	
Agriculture & Forestry Support	3		DISCLOSURE ISSUE	INFORMATION	9	62	\$892,865
MINING	2	DISCLOSURE ISSUE		Publishing Industries, Except Internet	2	DISCLOSURE ISSUE	
Mining, Except Oil & Gas	1	DISCLOSURE ISSUE		Motion Picture, Sound Recording Industry	2	DISCLOSURE ISSUE	
Support Activities for Mining	1	DISCLOSURE ISSUE		Broadcasting, Except Internet	2	DISCLOSURE ISSUE	
UTILITIES	5	46	\$2,529,828	Telecommunications	3	DISCLOSURE ISSUE	
CONSTRUCTION	65	332	\$12,511,373	FINANCE & INSURANCE	19	122	\$4,085,438
Construction of Buildings	19	40	\$750,497	Credit Intermediation & Related Activities	9	92	\$3,132,658
Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction	11	215	\$10,005,022	Securities, Commodities, Contracts, Investments	2	DISCLOSURE ISSUE	
Specialty Trade Contractors	35	77	\$1,755,854	Insurance Carriers & Related Activities	8	DISCLOSURE ISSUE	
MANUFACTURING	25	302	\$7,950,103	REAL ESTATE & RENTAL & LEASING	13	39	\$445,722
Food Manufacturing	5	35	\$798,964	Real Estate	11	DISCLOSURE ISSUE	
Beverage & Tobacco Product Manufacturing	1		DISCLOSURE ISSUE	Rental & Leasing Services	2	DISCLOSURE ISSUE	
Wood Product Manufacturing	4	22	\$379,997	PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL SERVICES	30	77	\$2,013,446
Printing & Related Support Activities	1		DISCLOSURE ISSUE	MANAGEMENT OF COMPANIES AND ENTERPRISES	1	DISCLOSURE ISSUE	
Plastics & Rubber Products Manufacturing	1		DISCLOSURE ISSUE	ADMINISTRATIVE & WASTE SERVICES	17	66	\$917,998
Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	2		DISCLOSURE ISSUE	Administrative & Support Services	15	DISCLOSURE ISSUE	
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	6	117	\$4,380,743	Waste Management & Remediation Services	2	DISCLOSURE ISSUE	
Machinery Manufacturing	1		DISCLOSURE ISSUE	PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES	1	DISCLOSURE ISSUE	
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	1		DISCLOSURE ISSUE	PRIVATE HEALTH CARE & SOCIAL ASSISTANCE	43	641	\$14,803,532
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	4		DISCLOSURE ISSUE	Ambulatory Health Care Services	27	123	\$2,605,019
WHOLESALE TRADE	24	204	\$5,143,385	Hospitals	1	DISCLOSURE ISSUE	
Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	8		DISCLOSURE ISSUE	Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	2	DISCLOSURE ISSUE	
Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	15	93	\$2,525,600	Social Assistance	14	129	\$1,591,259
Electronic Markets & Agents & Brokers	1		DISCLOSURE ISSUE	ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT & RECREATION	11	82	\$996,207
RETAIL TRADE	62	474	\$9,666,383	Museums, Historical Sites, Zoos, & Parks	1	DISCLOSURE ISSUE	
Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers	11	86	\$2,182,453	Amusements, Gambling & Recreation	10	77	\$960,725
Furniture & Home Furnishings Stores	3	20	\$394,174	ACCOMMODATION & FOOD SERVICES	45	468	\$4,067,905
Electronics & Appliance Stores	5	14	\$222,033	Accommodation	8	145	\$1,510,192
Building Material & Garden Supply Stores	7	29	\$599,320	Food Services & Drinking Places	37	324	\$2,557,713
Food & Beverage Stores	8		DISCLOSURE ISSUE	OTHER SERVICES	42	154	\$1,940,184
Health & Personal Care Stores	2		DISCLOSURE ISSUE	Repair & Maintenance	19	45	\$747,249
Gasoline Stations	5	35	\$383,858	Personal & Laundry Services	5	27	\$363,580
Clothing & Clothing Accessories Stores	6	48	\$621,575	Membership Associations & Organizations	13	68	\$632,842
Sporting Good, Hobby, Book & Music Stores	3		DISCLOSURE ISSUE	Private Households	6	14	\$196,513
General Merchandise Stores	3		DISCLOSURE ISSUE	TOTAL GOVERNMENT	45	1,008	\$28,462,631
Miscellaneous Store Retailers	8	53	\$741,215	Local Government	19	589	\$13,716,397
Nonstore Retailers	1		DISCLOSURE ISSUE	State Government	14	249	\$7,324,196
				Federal Government	12	170	\$7,422,038

Disclosure issue: information is confidential and nondisclosable.

Source: Montana Department of Labor and Industry, Research and Analysis Bureau. (Totals may not add due to nondisclosure of confidential industry data or to rounding.) *This data is based on the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) series which compiles data reported by all employers covered under Montana unemployment insurance.